

FOR

FORMATIVE. *adj.* [from *forma*, Latin.] Having the power of giving form; plastic.

As we have established our assertion of the femal production of all kinds of animals; so likewise we affirm, that the meanest plant cannot be raised without seed, by any *formative* power residing in the soil. *Bentley's Sermons.*

FORMER. *n. s.* [from *form.*] He that forms; maker; contriver; planner.

The wonderful art and providence of the contriver and former of our bodies, appears in the multitude of intentions he must have in the formation of several parts for several uses. *Roy on the Creation.*

FORMER. *adj.* [from *forma*, Saxon; first; whence *former*, and *formst* now commonly written *foremost*, as if derived from *before*.] *Formst* is generally applied to place, rank, or degree, and *former* only to time; for when we say, the last rank of the procession is like the *former*, we respect time rather than place, and mean that which we saw *before*, rather than that which had precedence in place.]

1. Before another in time.

Thy air,
Thou other gold-bound brow, is like the first:
—A third is like the *former*. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

2. Mentioned before another.

A bad author deserves better usage than a bad critic: a man may be the *former* merely through the misfortune of an ill judgment; but he cannot be the latter without both that and an ill temper. *Pope.*

3. Past; as, *this was the custom in former times.*

FORMERLY. *adv.* [from *former*.] In times past.

The places mentioned were all of them *formerly* the cool retirements of the Romans, where they used to hide themselves among the woods and mountains, during the excessive heats of their Summer. *Addison on Italy.*

As an animal degenerates by diseases, the animal salts, *formerly* benign, approach towards an alkaline nature. *Arbutnot.*

FORMIDABLE. *adj.* [from *formidabilis*, Latin; *formidabile*, Fr.] Terrible; dreadful; tremendous; terrific; to be feared.

I swell my preface into a volume, and make it *formidable*, when you see so many pages behind. *Dryden's En. Dedicat.*

They seem'd to fear the *formidable* fight,
And roll'd their billows on, to speed his flight. *Dryden.*

FORMIDABLENESS. *n. s.* [from *formidable*.]

1. The quality of exciting terror or dread.

2. The thing causing dread.

They rather chafe to be flied the *formidableness* of their danger, than, by a blind embracing it, to perish in it. *Decay of Piety.*

FORMIDABLY. *adv.* [from *formidable*.] In a terrible manner.

Behold! e'en to remoter shores,
A conquering navy proudly spread;
The British cannon *formidably* roars. *Dryden.*

FORMLESS. *adj.* [from *form*.] Shapeless; without regularity of form.

All form is *formless*, order orderless,
Save what is opposite to England's love. *Shakespeare's K. John.*

FORMULARY. *n. s.* [from *formulaire*, French; from *formula*.] A book containing stated and prescribed models or set forms.

FORMULE. *n. s.* [from *formula*, French; *formula*, Latin.] A set or prescribed model.

TO FORNICATION. *v. a.* [from *fornix*, Latin.] To commit lewdness.

It is a new way to *fornicate* at a distance. *Brown's Vul. Err.*

FORNICATION. *n. s.* [from *fornication*, French; *fornicatio*, Latin.]

1. Concubinage or commerce with an unmarried woman.

Bless me! what a try of *fornication* is at the door. *Shakespeare.*

The law ought to be strict against *fornications* and adulteries; for, if there were universal liberty, the increase of mankind would be but like that of foxes at best. *Graunt.*

2. In Scripture, sometimes idolatry.

Thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot, because of thy renown, and pouredst out thy *fornications*, on every one that passed by. *Ezek. xvi. 15.*

FORNICATOR. *n. s.* [from *fornicator*, French; from *fornix*, Latin.] One that has commerce with unmarried women.

A *fornicator* or adulterer steals the soul as well as dishonours the body of his neighbour. *Taylor's Rule of living holy.*

FORNICATRESS. *n. s.* [from *fornicator*.] A woman who without marriage cohabits with a man.

See you the *fornicatress* be remov'd;
Let her have needful but not slavish means. *Shakespeare.*

TO FORSAKE. *v. a.* *preter. forsook*; *part. pass. forsaken*, or *forsaken*. [from *forsaken*, Dutch.]

1. To leave in resentment, neglect, or dislike.

I was now the time when first Saul God *forsaken*,
God Saul; the room in's heart wild passions took. *Cowley.*

Orestes comes in time
To save your honour: Pyrrhus cools apace;
Prevent his falldoom, and *forsake* him first:
I know you hate him. *A. Phillips's Dismiss'd Mother.*

Daughter of Jove! whose arms in thunder wield
Th' avenging bolt, and shake the dreadful shield,

FOR

Forsook by thee, in vain I fought thy aid. *Pope's Odyssey.*

2. To leave; to go away from; to depart from.

Unwilling I *forsook* your friendly state,
Commanded by the gods, and forc'd by fate. *Dryden's En.*

3. To desert; to fail.

Truth, modesty, and flame the world *forsook*;
Fraud, avarice, and force their places took. *Dryd. Ovid.*

When ev'n the flying sails were seen no more,
Forsaken of all sight the left the shore. *Dryden.*

I their purple majesty,
And all those outward shows which we call greatness,
Languish and droop, seem empty and *forsaken*,
And draw the wond'ring gazers eyes no more. *Rome.*

FORSAKER. *n. s.* [from *forsake*.] Deserter; one that forsakes.

Thou didst deliver us into the hands of lawless enemies,
most hateful *forsakers* of God. *Apostrophe.*

FORSOOTH. *adv.* [from *forsooth*, Saxon.]

1. In truth; certainly; very well. It is used almost always in an ironical or contemptuous sense.

Wherefore doth Lyfander
Deny your love, so rich within his soul,
And tender me, *forsooth*, affection? *Shakespeare.*

A fit man, *forsooth*, to govern a realm, who had so goodly government in his own estate. *Hayward.*

Unlearned persons use such letters as justly express the power or found of their speech; yet *forsooth*, we say, write not true English, or true French. *Holder's Elem. of Speech.*

In the East Indies a widow, who has any regard to her character, throws herself into the flames of her husband's funeral pile, to shew, *forsooth*, that she is faithful to the memory of her deceased lord. *Addison's Freeholder.*

She would cry out murder, and disturb the whole neighbourhood; and when John came running down the stairs to enquire what the matter was, nothing, *forsooth*, only her maid had stuck a pin wrong in her gown. *Artibon. Hist. of J. Bull.*

Some question the genuineness of his books, because, *forsooth*, they cannot discover in them that *summen orationis* that Cicero speaks of. *Baker's Reflections on Learning.*

2. It is supposed to have been once a word of honour in address to women. It is probable that an inferior, being called, shewed his attention by answering in the word *yes*, *forsooth*, which in time lost its true meaning; and instead of a mere exclamatory interjection, was supposed a compellation. It appears in *Shakespeare* to have been used likewise to men.

Our old English word *forsooth* has been changed for the French *madam*. *Guardian.*

TO FORSWEAR. *v. a.* *pret. forswore*; *part. pass. forsworn*. [from *for*, Saxon; *swear*, Latin.]

1. To renounce upon oath.

I firmly vow
Never to wooe her more; but do *forswear* her,
As one unworthy all the former favours,
That I have fondly flatter'd her withal. *Shakespeare.*

2. To deny upon oath.

And that self chain about his neck,
Which he *forsovere* most monstrously to have. *Shakespeare.*

Observe the wretch who hath his faith forsook,
How clear his voice, and how assur'd his look!
Like innocence, and as serenely bold
As truth, how loudly he *forsovere* thy gold! *Dryd. Juven.*

3. With the reciprocal pronoun: as, *to forswear himself*; to be perjured; to swear falsely.

To leave my Julia, shall I be *forsworn*?
To love fair Silvia, shall I be *forsworn*?
To wrong my friend, shall I be much *forsworn*?
And ev'n that power which gave me first my oath,
Provokes me to this threefold perjury. *Shakespeare.*

One says, he never should endure the fight
Of that *forsworn*, that wrongs both land and laws. *Daniel.*

I too have sworn, ev'n at the altar sworn,
Eternal love and endless faith to Thebeus;
And yet am false, *forsworn*: the hallow'd shrine,
That heard me swear, is witness to my falldoom. *Smith.*

TO FORSWEAR. *v. n.* To swear falsely; to commit perjury.

Take heed; for he holds vengeance in his hand,
To hurl upon their heads that break his law.
—And that same vengeance doth hurl on thee,
For false *forswearing*, and for murder too. *Shakespeare's Rich. III.*

FORT. *n. s.* [from *fort*, French.] A fortified house; a castle.

They erected a *fort*, which they called the *fort de l'or*; and from thence they bolted like beafts of the forest. *Bacon.*

Now to their *fort* they are about to send
For the loud engines which their idle defend. *Waller.*

He that views a *fort* to take it,
Plants his artillery 'gainst the weakest part. *Denham's Sephy.*

My fury does, like jealous *forts*, pursue
With death, ev'n strangers who but come to view. *Dryden.*

FORTEB. *adj.* [from *fort*.] Furnished or guarded by forts.

Not used now.

Your

FOR

Your desert speaks loud, and I should wrong
To lock it in the wards of covert bosom,
When it deserves with characters of brass
A *forted* residence, 'gainst the tooth of time
And rasure of oblivion. *Shakespeare's Measure for Measure.*

FORTH. *adv.* [from *for*, Saxon; whence *further* and *farthest*.]

1. Forward; onward in time.

From that day *forth* I lov'd that face divine;
From that day *forth* I cast in careful mind
To seek her out. *Fairy Queen, b. i. cant. 9.*

2. Forward in place or order.

Look at the second admonition, and so *forth*, where they speak in most unchristian manner. *Whitgift.*

Mad Pandarus steps *forth*, with vengeance vow'd
For Bitias' death. *Dryden's En.*

3. Abroad; out of doors.

Uncle, I must come *forth*. *Shakespeare's Othello.*

I have no mind of feasting *forth* to-night. *Shakespeare.*

Attend you here the door of our stern daughter?
Will she not *forth*? *Shakespeare.*

When Winter past, and Summer scarce begun,
Invites them *forth* to labour in the sun. *Dryden's Virg. En.*

4. Out away; beyond the boundary of any place.

They will privately relieve their friends that are *forth*; they will send the enemy secret advertisements; and they will not also tick to draw the enemy privily upon them. *Spenser.*

Even that sunshine brew'd a show'r for him,
That wash'd his father's fortunes *forth* of France. *Shakespeare.*

5. Out into public state; public view.

You may set *forth* the fame with farmhouses. *Peacham.*

But when your troubled country call'd you *forth*,
Your flaming courage, and your matchless worth,
To fierce contention gave a propitious end. *Waller.*

6. Thoroughly; from beginning to end.

You, cousin,
Whom it concerns to hear this matter *forth*,
Do with your injuries as seems you best. *Shakespeare.*

7. To a certain degree.

Hence we learn, how far *forth* we may expect justification and salvation from the sufferings of Christ; no *further* than we are wrought on by his renewing grace. *Hammond.*

8. On to the end.

I repeated the Ave Maria: the inquisitor had me say *forth*;
I said I was taught no more. *Memir in S. rype.*

FORTH. *prop.* Out of.

And here's a prophet, that I brought with me
From *forth* the streets of Pomfret. *Shakespeare.*

Some *forth* their cabins peep,
And trembling ask what news, and do hear so
As jealous husbands, what they would not know. *Denne.*

FORTHCOMING. *adj.* [from *forth* and *coming*.] Ready to appear; not absconding; not lost.

Carry this mad knave to jail: I charge you see that he be *forthcoming*. *Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew.*

We'll see your trinkets here *forthcoming* all. *Shak. H. VI.*

FORTHISSUING. *adj.* [from *forth* and *issuing*.] Coming out; coming forward from a covert.

Forthissuing thus, the gave him first to wield
A weighty axe, with truest temper steel'd,
And double edg'd. *Pope's Odyssey, b. v.*

FORTHRIGHT. *adv.* [from *forth* and *right*.] Strait forward; without flexions.

He ever going to just with the horse, either *forthright* or turning, that it seem'd as he borrowed the horse's body, so he lent the horse his mind. *Sidney, b. ii.*

The river not running *forthright*, but almost continually winding, as if the lower streams would return to their spring, or that the river had a delight to play with itself. *Sidney, b. ii.*

Arrived there, they pass'd in *forthright*;
For still to all the gate flood open wide. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*

Here's a maze trod, indeed,
Through *forthrights* and meanders. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*

Thither *forthright* he rode to rouse the prey,
That shaded by the fern in harbour lay,
And thence dislodg'd. *Dryden's Knight's Tale.*

FORTHWITH. *adv.* [from *forth* and *with*.] Immediately; without delay; at once; straight.

Forthwith he runs, with feigned faithful haste,
Unto his guest; who, after troublous fights
And dreams, 'gan now to take more found repast. *Pa. Qu.*

Few things are so restrained to any one end or purpose, that the same being exting'd, they should *forthwith* utterly become frustrate. *Hosier, b. v. f. 42.*

Neither did the martial men dally or prosecute the service faintly, but did *forthwith* quench that fire. *Davies on Ireland.*

Forthwith began these fury-moving sounds,
The notes of wrath, the musick brought from hell,
The rattling drums. *Daniel's Civil War.*

The winged heralds, by command
Of sov'reign pow'r, throughout the host proclaim
A solemn council *forthwith* to be held
At Pandemonium. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. i.*

FOR

In his passage thither one put into his hand a note of the whole conspiracy, desiring him to read it *forthwith*, and to remember the giver of it as long as he lived. *South's Sermons.*

FORTHETH. *adj.* [from *forty*.] The fourth tenth; next after the thirty-ninth.

What doth it avail
To be the *fortieth* man in an entail? *Donne.*

Burnet says, Scotland is not above a *fortieth* part in value to the rest of Britain; and, with respect to the profit that England gains from hence, not the forty thousandth part. *Swift.*

FORTIFIABLE. *adj.* [from *fortify*.] What may be fortified.

FORTIFICATION. *n. s.* [from *fortification*, French, from *fortify*.]

1. The science of military architecture.

Fortification is an art shewing how to fortify a place with ramparts, parapets, moats, and other bulwarks; to the end that a small number of men within may be able to defend themselves, for a considerable time, against the assaults of a numerous army without; so that the enemy, in attacking them, must of necessity suffer great loss. It is either regular or irregular; and, with respect to time, may be distinguished into durable and temporary. *Harris.*

The Phœacians, tho' an unwelcome nation, yet understood the art of *fortification*. *Notes on the Odyssey.*

2. A place built for strength.

Excellent devices were used to make even their sports profitable; images, battles, and *fortifications* being then delivered to their memory, which, after stronger judgments, might dispense some advantage. *Sidney, b. ii.*

FORTIFIER. *n. s.* [from *fortify*.]

1. One who erects works for defence.

The *fortifier* of Pendennis made his advantage of the commodity afforded by the ground. *Carew's Survey of Cornwall.*

2. One who supports or secures; one who upholds.

He was led *forth* by many armed men, who often had been the *fortifiers* of wickedness, to the place of execution. *Sidney.*

TO FORTIFY. *v. a.* [from *fortify*, French.]

1. To strengthen against attacks by walls or works.

Great Dunlinane he strongly *fortifies*. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

He *fortified* the city against besieging. *Exclus. l. 4.*

2. To confirm; to encourage.

It greatly *fortified* her desires, to see that her mother had the like desires. *Sidney, b. ii.*

3. To fix; to establish in resolution.

But in-born worth that fortune can controul,
New-strung and stiffer bent her softer soul:
The heroine assum'd the woman's place,
Confirm'd her mind, and *fortify'd* her face. *Dryden.*

A young man, before he leaves the shelter of his father's house, should be *fortified* with resolution to secure his virtues. *Locke.*

FORTILAGE. *n. s.* [from *fort*.] A little fort; a blockhouse.

In all straits and narrow passages there should be some little *fortilage*, or wooden castle set, which should keep and command the strait. *Spenser on Ireland.*

FORTIN. *n. s.* [French.] A little fort raised to defend a camp, particularly in a siege.

Thou hast talk'd
Of palisades, *fortins*, parapets. *Shakespeare's Henry IV. p. i.*

FORTITUDE. *n. s.* [from *fortitudo*, Latin.]

1. Courage; bravery; magnanimity; greatness of mind; power of acting or suffering well.

The king-becoming graces,
Devotion, patience, courage, *fortitude*,
I have no relish of them. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

The better *fortitude*
Of patience, and heroic martyrdom
Unsung. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*

Fortitude is the guard and support of the other virtues; and without courage, a man will scarce keep steady to his duty, and fill up the character of a truly worthy man. *Locke.*

2. Strength; force. Not in use.

He wrongs his fame,
Despairing of his own arm's *fortitude*,
To join with witches and the help of hell! *Shakespeare's H. VI.*

FORTLET. *n. s.* [from *fort*.] A little fort.

FORTNIGHT. *n. s.* [contracted from *fourteen nights*, *prophetyme* night, Saxon. It was the custom of the ancient northern nations to count time by nights: thus we say, *this day seven-nights*. So *Tacitus*, *Non dicunt numerum ut nos, sed notitium computant*.] The space of two weeks.

She would give her a lesson for walking so late, that should make her keep within doors for one *fortnight*. *Sidney, b. ii.*

Hanging in a deep well, somewhat above the water, for some *fortnight* space, is an excellent means of making drink fresh and quick. *Bacon's Natural History.*